

ESSEX HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION



**Town of Essex
29 West Avenue
Essex, CT 06426**

**Regular Meeting
Thursday, July 28, 2016
Meeting Room A**

1. Call to Order

Chairman Jeff Going called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Essex Harbor Management Commission to order at 7:30 p.m.

2. Attendance

Members Present

- Jeff Going, Chairman
- Earl Fowler, Alternate
- Terry Stewart, Treasurer
- Walter Wiegert
- Joe Zaraschi, Vice Chairman

Ex Officio Members Present

- Buddy Hitchcock, Deputy Harbor Master
- Paul Riggio, Harbor Master

Earl Fowler was seated for John Senning. Terry Stewart was expected and arrived at 8:05 p.m.

3. Approval of June Regular Meeting Minutes

The June 23, 2016 regular meeting minutes were reviewed.

Motion: Walter Wiegert moved to approve the June 23, 2016 regular meeting minutes. Earl Fowler seconded the motion. Those in favor: Earl Fowler, Walter Wiegert, and Joe Zaraschi, 3-0-0 motion unanimously approved.

4. Public Comment

None.

5. Financial Report

Walter Wiegert reviewed the July 28, 2016 Treasurer's report.

Motion: Joe Zaraschi moved to approve the July 28, 2016 Treasurer's report. Earl Fowler seconded the motion. Those in favor: Earl Fowler and Joe Zaraschi, Walter Wiegert abstained; 2-0-1 motion approved.

One invoice was presented for approval:

- Betsy McLaughlin, Clerk - \$288.20 for July Clerk Services.

Walter noted that this statement reflects the June rate of pay because the Commission was not aware of the annual wage notification cost of living increase effective July 1, 2016 until tonite's meeting.

Motion: Walter Wiegert moved to approve the invoice as presented and to submit two invoices for the next meeting; one for the difference in the old rate to the new rate for July and one reflecting the new rate for August. Earl Fowler seconded the motion. Those in favor: Earl Fowler, Walter Wiegert, and Joe Zaraschi; 3-0-0 motion unanimously approved.

Walter reported as outgoing Treasurer that all financial records have been submitted to the Town for the general audit fiscal year end, that Jeff Going and Terry Stewart are now signators on the bank accounts, and that we will now begin receiving on-line statements instead of paper statements.

Paul Riggio and members of the Commission thanked Walter for all of his flawless years of service and for going a great job.

6. Harbor Master Report

New Wait List Requests

- Tyler Cardinal, Meadows, check dated 6/24/16
- William M. Porter, Main, check dated 6/29/16
- Leonard Estelle, Meadows, check dated 7/11/16
- Richard C. Marsh, Main, check dated 7/12/16

Paul has been in communication with R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc. regarding the survey that was done for North Cove and its approaches in Essex. The Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development sent us a letter and a CD of the survey bathymetric data as a result, which will be helpful to us in terms of the mooring layout.

Paul noted that we are finally starting to get loaded up in the Harbor. There was one issue where we learned that we had missed assigning a location for a mooring permit holder which was able to be adjusted quickly. He said this has only happened once before but suggested a corresponding layout be done in conjunction with the mooring permit spreadsheet to prevent it from ever happening again.

Paul observed two bright red jet boats coming into the harbor one week day evening with loud music and left the harbor at full throttle. Paul mentioned it to the resident trooper, who had not received a report. This raised the question as to what the schedule is for the patrols, which is Friday night, Saturday, Sunday, and randomly during the week. It is thought that maybe the random patrols during the week should be done more frequently as this seems to be when more patrols may be needed.

Jeff asked Paul about the collision that Cy Libby observed on Sunday. This hadn't been reported to Paul and he will follow up with Cy.

There was discussion that the Essex Yacht Club and the Essex Corinthian Yacht Club be advised not to sail the club owned Ideal -18's thru the mooring fleet as there have been complaints from mooring holders that their boats have be damaged by collisions.

7. Harbor Management Business

- **Capital Projects:** None.
- **Town Access Ways.** None
- **Anchorage Markers/Coast Guard Report**

An observation report was received from the Coast Guard on our aids to navigation. Jeff shared the observations with the Commission and has had copies made for Paul and Cy Libby. He met with the Coast Guard to discuss the observations and adjustments will be made accordingly.

8. Correspondence

- Coast Guard observation report as discussed above.
- Annual Wage Notification as discussed above.
- Letter from Connecticut Department of Economic Community Development regarding the North Cove survey as discussed above.

9. New Business

- **Bushnell Access Cleanup/Plantings**

Joe Zaraschi reported that the Town Crew tried to trim the evergreen bushes but they were too big. He spoke with the Tree Warden who said he would look at them and talk to the Town Crew to have them removed. Joe talked to Acer Gardens about replacement suggestions. It will be up to the Commission to decide what to replace the bushes with.

- **Bids for Servicing of Anchorage Markers ad Dock Floats (9/1/16)**

The RFP for bids for servicing of the anchorage markers and dock floats was discussed. If members have any changes they will give them to Betsy. The RFP will go out on September 1st and will be publicized on the Harbor website, the State of Connecticut bid portal, the local paper, and a posting at Town Hall.

10. Old Business

- **Confiscated Vessel Auction**

John was not present at the meeting but had advised the Commission that he would provide an update in September.

- **Harbor Management Plan Update**

No new update.

- **Newsletter**

Joe Zaraschi has prepared an article for the newsletter on how to exit the harbor safely. Other topics were briefly discussed.

Jeff reported that he was invited to and attended a Selectmen's meeting regarding the Mack Lane easement issue discussed at our last meeting. The Town Attorney was also present at the meeting. Jeff gave them the proposal from Paige Lescure and Robert Edmonds and stressed that they are not asking for a new easement or a rewriting of the easement; rather, they are asking for a legal interpretation of the easement that would allow what they want to happen to happen. Jeff stressed the Commission's support of the proposal and that we are very much in favor of it from the Commission's management position.

Other

Paul Riggio said he will be away for two weeks and Buddy Hitchcock confirmed that he will be around during that time.

There has been nothing new on the biosonic bird devise issue. All is quiet.

Terry Stewart reported that the books have been transferred to him as the new Treasurer, that the financial statements will now be viewed online rather than receiving paper statements, and that he, Jeff Going and Kelly Sterner will also have access to them.

12. Adjournment

Motion: Joe Zaraschi moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Walter Wiegert seconded the motion. Those in favor: Earl Fowler, Terry Stewart, Walter Wiegert, and Joe Zaraschi; 4-0-0 motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Betsy McLaughlin, Clerk